

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amendment paragraph number 0003 as follows:

A variety of endovascular grafts are currently on the market or in clinical trials. These grafts have a number of different characteristics related to their fixation mechanisms, construction and support with respect to the vessel wall. Currently, fixation of the endovascular graft can be achieved ~~though~~ through radial wall tension using a self expanding stent or by balloon expansion of a deformable stent which may possess fixation elements to penetrate the arterial wall. Alternatively, the stent/graft may be secured to the vessel wall through suturing.

Please amendment paragraph number 0051 as follows:

FIGS. 19-21 illustrate an alternate apparatus for deploying a vascular graft. This apparatus 600 includes a catheter apparatus similar to the apparatus utilized in FIG. 1, ~~but~~, but further incorporates an umbrella mechanism 602 for deploying the staples. The umbrella mechanism 602 involves a plurality of arms (spokes) 604 having respective proximal 604a and distal legs 604b connected to each other about a respective hinge schematically identified by reference numeral 606. In FIG. 19, umbrella mechanism 602 is shown confined within outer sheath 603 of catheter 600. A stationary central elongated member 608 extends through the catheter. The elongated member 608 may function as a guide wire and may possess a coiled end 609 as depicted in FIG. 19. The distal legs 604b of each arm 604 are connected to the central member 608 through hinge means, pivot means 610, etc. A drive member 612 is coaxially mounted about central member 608 and reciprocally moveable along the central member 608. The drive member 612 is operatively connected to proximal legs 604a of spokes 604 through hinge means 614, (or a pivot pin, etc.) as appreciated by one skilled in the art. The drive member 612 has handle 614 disposed at its proximal end adapted for engagement by the user. Drive member 612 moves between a proximal position corresponding to a non-deployed condition of the umbrella mechanism (FIG. ~~21A~~20A) through an intermediate position corresponding to a partially deployed condition of the umbrella mechanism (FIG. ~~21B~~20B) to a fully advanced position corresponding to a fully deployed condition of the umbrella mechanism (FIG. ~~21C~~20C).